

National Climatic Data Center

DATA DOCUMENTATION

FOR

**DATASET 9726 (DSI-9726)**

Daily Solar Radiation

**January 26, 2004**

National Climatic Data Center  
151 Patton Ave.  
Asheville, NC 28801-5001 USA

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1. **Abstract:** The Daily Solar Radiation dataset is a historical dataset maintained by the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC). Elements included are total radiation per day, total extraterrestrial radiation, minutes of sunshine, average cloudiness and percent of possible radiation.

The dataset covers stations in the United States, Canada, Iceland, West Indies, and the Pacific Islands. Four stations have records beginning December 1 1951. The majority of stations began taking records in July of 1952.

2. **Element Names and Definitions:**

**Format**

Column	Element	Card Code	Definition
1-5	Station number	X0001-X9999	Cooperative station index number
6-7	Year	51-99	1951-1999
8-9	Month	01-12	January - December
10-11	Day	01-31	Day of month
12-16	Total radiation Langley's per day	00000-99999	0.0 - 9999.9 Langley's to tenths
17-20	Total Extraterrestrial radiation per day	0000-9999	0 - 9999 whole Langley's
21-24	Sunshine total minutes per day	0000-9999	0 - 9999 minutes per day
25-27	Percent of possible sunshine	000-100	0 - 100%
28	Average cloudiness (sunrise to sunset)	0, 1-9 X	Tenths 10 tenths
29-31	Percent of possible radiation	000-100	0 - 100%
32-33	None	Blank	
31-35	Solar week	01-52	Solar week of year
36-78	None	Blank	
79-80	State or area index number	01-96	Index number for state or area

3. **Start Date:** 19520101

4. **Stop Date:** 19761231

5. **Coverage:**

- a. Southernmost Latitude: -2.0S
- b. Northernmost Latitude: 75.0N
- c. Westernmost Longitude: -165.0W
- d. Easternmost Longitude: -23.0E

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6. **How to Order Data:**

Ask NCDC's Climate Services about the cost of obtaining this data set.

Phone: 828-271-4800

FAX: 828-271-4876

E-mail: [NCDC.Orders@noaa.gov](mailto:NCDC.Orders@noaa.gov)

7. **Archiving Data Center:**

Archive Branch  
National Climatic Data Center  
151 Patton Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801

8. **Technical Contact:**

National Climatic Data Center  
151 Patton Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801

9. **Known Uncorrected Problems:** None.

10. **Quality Statement:** The United States National Weather Service considers the accuracy of previously published solar radiation data questionable; the accuracy of data being collected currently but not published is also considered questionable.

11. **Essential Companion Datasets:**

12. **References:**